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State To Offer New Reserve License Plates

ATLANTA – Members of active military reserve units and retired reservists are eligible to obtain a service-unique license plate beginning Jan. 1, 2001.

"Distinctive licenses plates are being manufactured for each branch of service," said Chip Curl, Department of Revenue Deputy Commissioner for Motor Vehicles. "We will be issuing plates for the US Air Force Reserve, US Army Reserve, US Coast Guard Reserve, US Marine Corps Reserve and US Navy Reserve."

"Individuals will be required to prove their military reserve status before being issued a distinctive reserve plate," Curl stated.

Current active reserve members will be required to present a letter from their commanding officer verifying their reserve status to the county tag office. Retired reservists must present a copy of their 20-year retirement letter. These proofs will be an annual requirement.

Individuals renewing their registration during their normal registration period can retain their old US Reserve plate provided it is not displayed on any vehicle. If the registration for the new distinctive plate is done outside the normal registration period, the old US Reserve plate must be surrendered to the county tag office.

The Department of Motor Vehicles has sent letters to all persons currently having a US Reserve plate. The letter outlines the new reserve license plate regulation and asks recipients to notify the Motor Vehicle Division of their branch preference. This will allow the Department to get the correct licenses plates to tag offices throughout the state. Individuals will retain their current license plate number.

Individuals desiring more information or having questions about the new plates should contact their local tag office.

The new plates are not authorized for members of the National Guard that are issued Reservist license plates for service in a National Guard unit located outside of Georgia.